

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A slide type portable terminal, comprising:
 - a main unit that includes separated first and second key sections exposed in a surface of the main unit; and
 - a display unit that includes a display screen exposed to a front surface of the display unit, wherein the display unit is configured to slide relative to the surface of the main unit to cause the first and second key sections of the main unit to be selectively exposed,
 - wherein the display unit can be selectively slid to a first position where both the first and second key sections of the main unit are exposed, a second position where only one of the key sections is exposed, and a third position where both the first and second key sections are not exposed.
2. The slide type portable terminal of claim 1, comprising a stopper mechanism configured to allow the display unit to be stopped at the second position where said only one of the key sections is exposed.
3. The slide type portable terminal of claim 2, wherein the stopper mechanism includes a stopper groove affixed to one of the display unit and the main unit, and a stopper spring coupled to the other one of the units to correspond to the stopper groove, wherein the stopper spring is selectively seated in the stopper groove.

4. The slide type portable terminal of claim 1, wherein first and second magnets are correspondingly arranged on the main unit and the display unit, respectively, so that the same poles of the magnets face each other to provide a repulsive force when they are positioned to face close to each other.

5. The slide type portable terminal of claim 4, wherein corresponding sliding structures configured to perform sliding operations of the main unit and the display unit are provided on opposite lateral ends of the main unit and the display unit.

6. The slide type portable terminal of claim 1, wherein the separated first and second key sections are a number key section and a function key section that includes a microphone respectively.

7. The slide type portable terminal of claim 6, comprising a third separate input section being function buttons on an upper surface of the display unit.

8. A portable terminal, comprising:

a main unit that includes first and second key sections separately accessible to a surface of the main unit; and

a display unit that includes a display screen, wherein the display unit is configured to selectively move relative to the surface of the main unit between a first position where both the first and second key sections of the main unit are not accessible, a

second position where only one of the key sections is accessible, and a third position where both the first and second key sections are accessible.

9. The portable terminal of claim 8, wherein the display unit is configured to slide relative to the surface of the main unit.

10. A slide type portable terminal, comprising:
a main unit including separated first and second key sections and a first plate on a surface of the main unit;
a display unit that includes a display screen on a front surface of the display unit and a second plate slidably coupled to the first plate so that the first and second key sections of the main unit are selectively covered and exposed; and
first and second magnets on the first and second plates, respectively, so that the same poles of the magnets face each other to provide a repulsive force when they are positioned to face close to each other.

11. The slide type portable terminal of claim 10, wherein the display unit can be selectively slid to a first position where both the first and second key sections of the main unit are exposed, a second position where only one of the key sections is exposed, and a third position where both the first and second key sections are covered.

12. The slide type portable terminal of claim 11, wherein the first and second magnets cross over each other during movement between the first and second positions.

13. The slide type portable terminal of claim 12, wherein a stopper mechanism includes a stopper groove that is on one of the first and second plates, and a plurality of stopper springs on the other one of the plates, wherein one of the plurality of stopper springs is removably seated in the stopper groove in each of the first, second and third positions.

14. The slide type portable terminal of claim 11, wherein the first and second magnets cross over each other during movement between the second and third positions.

15. The slide type portable terminal of claim 10, comprising a touch screen input device removably attached to the portable terminal, wherein the display screen is a touch screen.

16. The slide type portable terminal of claim 10, comprising a stopper mechanism configured to temporarily fix the display unit to be stopped at a position where one of the key sections is exposed.

17. The slide type portable terminal of claim 16, wherein the stopper mechanism includes a stopper groove that is on one of the first and second plates, and a stopper spring

on the other one of the plates to correspond to the stopper groove, wherein the stopper spring is removably seated in the stopper groove.

18. The slide type portable terminal of claim 10, comprising a third separate key section being function keys on an upper surface of the display unit, wherein the separated first and second key sections are a number key section and a multi-media key section that includes a microphone, respectively.

19. A method, comprising:

sliding a display unit of a portable terminal to a first position where both first and second separated key sections of a main unit of the portable terminal are exposed in an upper surface of the main unit;

sliding the display unit to a second position where only one of the key sections is exposed; and

sliding the display unit to a third position where both the first and second key sections are covered.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein magnetic force assists movement between the first and second positions and between the second and third positions.

21. The method of claim 20, comprising providing a resistive locking member between the display unit and the main unit, wherein the resistive locking member has an

engaging member and an engagement member that retractably engage at least when the display unit is in the second position.

22. A system including a slide type portable terminal with a first unit having first and second pluralities of keys and slidingly coupled to a second unit, comprising:

a stopping mechanism coupled to the first and second units and configured to stop the first and second units in a first position where both the first and second key sections of the first unit are exposed, a second position where only one of the key sections is exposed, and a third position where both the first and second key sections are not exposed.